

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE  
STATE OF IOWA COMMISSION OF ELDER AFFAIRS  
June 16, 2003**

**Present:** Harold Davis  
Hazel Chuck  
Craig Downing  
Clemmie Hightower  
J. Russell Lowe  
Yogesh Shah  
Senator Joe Bolkcom

**ABSENT:** Jane Paulsen  
Senator David Johnson  
Representative Todd Taylor  
Representative Linda Upmeyer

**Others Present:** Mark Haverland, Mary Ann Young, Sherry James, Greg Anliker, Joel Wulf, Debi Meyers, Bob Welsh, Eve Casserly, Dolores Mallinger, Jenny Knust, Linda Hildreth, Jeff Batz, Jeanne Yordi, Lisa Burk, Jayne Walke, Cynthia Beauman, Liz Selk, Deanna Clingan-Fischer, Marvin Webb, Phyllis Huber, Barbara Morrison.

**Call to Order**

The business meeting of the Commission of Elder Affairs was held on June 16, 2003.

Chairperson Harold Davis called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. The Recording Secretary conducted roll call. The following Commissioner's answered roll call: Harold Davis, Hazel Chuck, Russell Lowe, Clemmie Hightower, Craig Downing, Yogesh Shah. A quorum was present.

**Agenda**

**Action:** Commissioner Downing moved, Commissioner Hightower seconded, the agenda be approved as printed. A roll call vote determined all Commission members present voted "aye".

## **Minutes**

Commissioner Chuck requested an update on contacting Senator Harkin regarding additional funding for Elder Abuse. Linda Hildreth reported she had contacted his office and is awaiting a reply.

Action: Commissioner Hightower moved, Commissioner Chuck seconded, to approve the minutes of April 3, 2003 as written. All Commissioners present voted "aye".

## **FY'04 Area Plan Revisions & Amendments**

Jayne Walke explained that an area plan is considered to be an amendment and requires Commission approval if any of the following activities occurs: "Addition of a direct service, addition or deletion of a service category, and/or a new request or changed request to transfer funds from Title III-B to Title IIIC1 or Title IIIC2 or any combination of these three Titles to or from these Titles.

Greg reviewed the time frame of when Area plans are presented to the Department for review and the process of final approval. He requested the Commissioners disregard Area 9, Generations, as this amendment for FY'04 was not needed. These services were actually added last year. If conditions for plans have not been met by September 30, no approved plan would be in place and therefore funding to non-compliant agencies will be suspended. It should be noted that non-compliance due to conditional plans has never occurred.

Jayne reviewed the five Agencies requesting amendments to their FY'04 Area Plans: Area 1, Northland; Area 6 & 8, Hawkeye Valley; Area 10, Heritage; Area 13, Southwest and Area 16, Southeast.

Action: Commissioner Downing moved to accept the Department's recommendation to conditionally approve the five Agencies' requests for amendments to their FY'04 Area Plans. Commissioner Lowe seconded the motion. A roll call vote determined all commission members present voted "aye".

## **FY'03 Area Plan Amendments**

Jayne Walke explained that an area plan is considered to be an amendment and requires Commission approval if any of the following activities occurs: "Addition of a direct service, addition or deletion of a service category, and/or a new request or changed request to transfer funds from Title III-B to Title IIIC1 or Title IIIC2 or any combination of these three Titles to or from these Titles.

Jayne reported there were two Agencies requesting additional services be added to their FY'03 plans: Area 1, Northland Agency requested to add six new services:

Training and Education, Public Education, Emergency Response, Medical Alert, Respite and SIP Employment; and Area 9, Generations Agency requested to add four new services: Advocacy, Adult & Consumer Protective Services, Protective Payee and Assessment & Intervention. Jayne reported a public hearing was held in their area and the Department recommended approval.

There was much discussion regarding the timing of the request for approval and the process of submission, review, and recommendations.

Action: Commissioner Shah moved to accept the amendments for FY '03 as requested. Commissioner Hightower seconded the motion. A roll call vote determined all commission members present voted "aye".

### **Director's Report**

The Department will be exhibiting in the Varied Industries Building at the Iowa State Fair this year. I4A will be assisting with staffing of the booth and will display information regarding Iowa Caregiver program. The Department will also be participating in the Older Iowan's Day celebration in assisting with the crowning of the King and Queen and other activities at the Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield stage.

There has been discussion regarding the transfer of oversight of the Continuous Care Retirement Communities (CCRC's) from the Insurance Commission to the Department. This has been successful in many other states.

Mark reported the Department had discussed the future of the Older Iowans' Legislature with OIL leadership and the AAA's. There is discussion regarding the fact OIL can be more effective and a more useful event. Conversation centered on whether OIL should be an individual organization or continue to be sponsored by the Department and AAA's. There will be changes to the OIL chapter within the DEA Administrative Rules.

Legislation has required the Department to resolve conflict of interest with providers relative to the Case Management program. A workgroup has been developed and they will begin reviewing this language. A representative from Maine has been asked to come to Iowa and present their current plan as to how their state got to where they are now, what they would like to change, etc. A plan is due by October 1, 2003.

Mark reported he has been asked to serve on the board of the National Association of State Units on Aging. They meet in Washington DC. A meeting will be held in June that will include an orientation for new State Directors.

The Management team toured the Universal Design home in Ames for the disability and aging communities. Lt. Governor Peterson recently developed a Housing Task Force to look at options for the disabled and aging population of Iowa.

Mark gave a brief update on the budget. State appropriations have requested level funding for the fiscal year.

The Department is collaborating with Cultural Affairs for an Age Exchange program. This is a grant awarded to Cultural Affairs to help do art work in Senior Centers and Care Centers to tell stories of senior's lifestyles.

The Senior Living Coordinator's Unit is charged with developing a long range plan for long term care. AARP is graciously willing to work with our Department to put together a Town Meeting to discuss such topics as ratio of money spent in Nursing Homes to Home and Community Based Services. These conversations will assist the Department in developing the Long Range Plan. The Town Meeting is tentatively scheduled for September.

### **Federal Title III**

Greg Anliker reported on the Federal Title III project. The Department has been in communication with the Administration on Aging staff regarding efforts to bring Iowa's Title III program income balances closer into compliance with Federal regulations. Financial reports received from the AAA's for the FY '04 reporting period ending 9/30/03 will be used for the determination of any existing Title III or program income balances. Revisions of the amounts may result from the receipt of additional revenues and liquidation of obligations accruing to the reporting period ending 9/30/03.

### **Legislative Issues**

Joel Wulf updated the Commissioners on the House and Senate Files regarding Medicaid Redesign; Case Management; Appropriations Bill; Assisted Living; Medicaid Reimbursement Rates; Dependent Adult Abuse; Elder Abuse; Technical Bill; and Standings Bill.

### **Volunteer Ombudsman Program**

Debi Meyers and Jeanne Yordi reported on a program to establish a Volunteer Ombudsman Program. This is an advocate committee, different from the Resident Advocate Committee that is currently established. Jeanne reported volume continues to grow in regards to complaints and the effectiveness of the Ombudsman Program continues to be more efficient. The development of the Program could take 2-3 months, intentionally slow and deliberate. The Department will be developing rules to establish a Volunteer Ombudsman Program.

### **Elder Abuse Update**

Linda Hildreth, State Elder Abuse Policy Coordinator, updated the Commissioners on House File 416. She reported she has been conducting "Train the Trainer" courses across the state in preparation for building on this legislation for next session. The Elder Abuse Conference will be held on October 13 and 14 at the University Park Holiday Inn.

### **Legal Assistance Update**

Deanna Clingan-Fischer, Legal Services Developer, reported the Legal Services Developer is a position for state departments required by Federal Law. She reported Substitute Decision Making and End of Life curriculum has been established. They will begin training for these issues by early fall and working on the development of legislation for next session.

### **Project Lifesaver-Iowa Program**

Cynthia Beauman, Director from Northwest Aging Association, demonstrated a new device being utilized through the Project Lifesaver-Iowa program. Project Lifesaver-Iowa is a program that provides a tracking system to locate individuals who have the tendency to wander and become lost. Individuals enrolled in the program wear a bracelet on their wrist or ankle that emits a radio signal every second. The lost person is located using receivers that pick up this signal. The signal is specific and personalized for each individual.

### **Senior Internship Program**

Phyllis Huber, Mature Worker Coordinator, reported on the Senior Internship Program (SIP). SIP is a work-training program authorized under Title V of the Older Americans Act and funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. Administered by the Department, SIP helps low income job seekers age 55 and older gain the skills and paid work experience needed to transition into permanent, unsubsidized jobs.

There are currently four SIP project sites, covering 29 counties in Iowa. The requirement is 49 by June 30; there were 62 placements by May 30 and we could possibly have 80 placements by the end of the fiscal year.

### **Other**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 24 at 10:00 at the Urbandale Public Library.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

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Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date